

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 22, 2004

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on March 22, 2004 in Room 830 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Jernigan called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m., followed by introductions. The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Jernigan
Commissioner Cooperman
Commissioner Davalos
Commissioner Duba
Commissioner Gravely
Commissioner Lewis
Commissioner Morgan
Commissioner Mummey
Commissioner Rodriguez

President Jernigan introduced and welcomed new Fourth District Commissioner Bonnie Lewis, appointed by Supervisor Knabe.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2004

On motion of Commissioner Cooperman, seconded by Commissioner Mummey, and unanimously carried, the minutes of February 23, 2004 were approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Commissioner Perkins joined the meeting during the President's Report.)

Wanda Johnson, a former Board Deputy, expressed thanks and gratitude to President Jernigan for her leadership and guidance throughout the years of working for the Second Supervisorial District.

President Jernigan reported the following:

- She thanked Commissioners and staff for their prayers and cards following the loss of her sister and for their participation in the Awards Luncheon.
- She received several letters of thanks from Awardees.
- She appeared on Supervisor Burke's cable television program, "Los Angeles County This Month with Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke." Her program is aired by Comcast Cable on Wednesday nights at 7:30 p.m. on Channel 27.
- Southern California Edison increased Awardee Tracy Tate's salary by 30%.
- She reported on results of the March 2, 2004 primary elections.
- She announced a retirement party for the Bank of America Vice-President.

- She and her Commissioners attended the NAWBO Hall of Fame Awards Luncheon on March 19, 2004.
- She received an invitation to the commissioning of a United States Navy Ship.
- Supervisor Burke is Co-Chairing Denim Day on April 21, 2004.

TREASURER'S REPORT

On behalf of Treasurer Lesser, staff reported on the expenditures for the month of February 2004. The beginning balance for February was \$29,994.87; the expenditures were \$940.00; the income was \$59.00; and the ending balance was \$29,113.87. The March 2004 budget is \$7,278.47.

STAFF REPORT

Staff reported the following:

- The Board of Supervisors reappointed Ruth Jernigan to another two year term expiring August 2006.
- The ACCW has invited Commissioners to submit stories for their newsletter.
- April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and April 21, 2004 is Denim Day. Staff will distribute buttons, flyers and posters for the event.

REPORT ON PLANNING FOR 6TH ANNUAL 5K RUN/WALK AND CONSIDER ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM OF YOUTH OBESITY AS A THEME OF THE EVENT

After suggesting the Commission use this year's 5k event as a tool to promote health and fitness, Commissioner Duba announced that the event's theme will be the Run/Walk for Fitness. She then described event planning and sponsorship.

PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES ON RECRUITMENT OUTREACH

(Commissioner Becerra-Jones joined the meeting during the presentation.)

Susan Toy Stern, Chief Deputy, Human Resources, highlighted the department's effort to recruit, hire and develop quality employees to fulfill the County's mission of providing excellent service to the public. After providing statistics on the percentage of women employees in various county management positions, she outlined the county's recruitment and hiring process through open competitive and promotional examinations. In addition, DHR actively recruits female candidates in various fields, including engineering and law enforcement, through campus outreach, job faires and health and sports expos. Her department also offers career development through the County's Internship Program and the Training Academy. Ms. Stern then provided a list of women's organizations and other career resources for women.

President Jernigan thanked Ms. Stern for her informative presentation.

PRESENTATION ON THE FUNDING STATUS OF BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTERS AND ITS IMPACT ON THE JENESSE CENTER'S OPERATIONS

Karen Earl, Executive Director, explained the challenge of funding the Jenesse Center programs for women and children, which include legal services and parenting classes. The Jenesse Center operates six shelters with 125 beds and has 50 staff. The center serves over 50 children, of which 20-30% are teenagers. Because of the state budget cuts, the organization recruits university interns and volunteers and applies for various grants. Chirelle Adams, Jenesse Center staff, provided an overview of the center's children and youth programs.

President Jernigan thanked Ms. Earl and Ms. Adams for their informative presentation.

PRESENTATION ON THE MULTI-CULTURAL COMING OF AGE CELEBRATION

Maria Cerdas, 2nd District Deputy, described the budget, expenses and activities of the Supervisor Burke's event for 30 at-risk youth, and requested the Commission's support. Following discussion, the Commission agreed to agendize its support on the next Commission agenda.

REPORT ON THE 2004 WOMEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS LUNCHEON

Commissioner Davalos thanked staff and sponsors of the Awards Luncheon and reviewed the expenses and revenue from the event.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health Committee: There was no report.

Legislative Committee: There was no report.

Media/Public Relations Committee: Commissioner Morgan reported on the Le Roy Haynes Center.

Older Women's Issues Committee

Commissioner Mummey reported on planning for the older women's conference, her visitations of probation camps, and an organ donation program.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Yvonne La Rose announced "Take our Daughters and Sons to Work Day" on April 20, 2004 and reported on her participation in the Los Angeles Writers' Conference.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Davalos reported on the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center's 3rd Annual Women's Health Conference on March 5, 2004.

Commissioner Perkins reported on an illustrated book by Dr. Cynthia Jacobs Carter and announced that she would attend Dorothy Height's Congressional Gold Medal of Honor ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Commissioner Becerra-Jones provided a copy of the *Los Angeles Times' Parent Reading Guide*.

After Commissioner Mummey inquired about the Commission library, staff informed her of its location in Room 383.

MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA: There were none.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSIONERS

Ruth Jernigan, President
Yolanda Becerra-Jones
Roslyn Cooperman
Karin Davalos
Reiko Duba
Wadie Gravely
Bonnie J. Lewis
Lila Morgan
Janet Mummey, Esq.
Barbara Perkins
Olivia G. Rodriguez

EXCUSED

Yvonne Mariajimenez, Esq., Vice President
Charlotte Lesser, Treasurer
Ruth V. Creary, Ph.D.

UNEXCUSED

Sophia Esparza

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Maria Cerdas, Second District
Rainey Ritchey, Fifth District
Khanh Nguyen, Executive Office
B. Eugene Romig, Executive Office
Twila Kerr, Executive Office
Steve Erickson, Executive Office
Susan Toy Stern, Human Resources
Angel Triola, Office of Affirmative Action Compliance

GUEST

Sherelle Adams, The Jenesse Center, Inc.
Genevieve Clavreul
Karen Earl, The Jenesse Center, Inc.
Wanda Johnson
Yvonne La Rose